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No. 0885 P. 1

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## **FAX TRANSMITTAL**

**Date:** April 6, 2005

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**To:** Central Facsimile Number

**From:** Sherry Thompson

**Of:** USPTO

**Fax:** (740) 321-8024

**Fax:** (703) 872-9306

**Phone:** (740) 321-7361

**SUBJECT:** Information Disclosure Statement With Form PTO 1449 and 0 References

**Serial No.:** U.S. Patent Application 10/749,281, filed December 31, 2003

I hereby certify that an Information Disclosure Statement With Form PTO 1449 and 0 References for the above noted case is being transmitted to the Central Facsimile Number, at the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office (Fax No. (703) 872-9306) on April 6, 2005.

April 6, 2005

(Date of Deposit)

Sherry Thompson

(Name of Depositor)

Sherry Thompson  
(Signature)

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APR 08 2005

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:

Huff

Serial No.: 10/749,281  
Confirmation No.: 9783

Filed: 12/31/2003

For: Bumper/Muffler Assembly

Group Art Unit: 2837

Examiner: Unknown

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.97(c)**

Mail Stop \_\_\_\_\_  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to the duty of disclosure under 37 CFR 1.56, Applicant brings the art document(s) listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 to the attention of the Examiner for consideration in connection with the examination of the above-identified application.

No representation is made that the art cited constitutes prior art or that the art cited is the most relevant art. The reference(s) cited so that the Examiner will be aware of material known to the applicant. The Examiner is encouraged to consider the cited reference(s) and make an independent determination of materiality.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed within the period specified at 37 CFR 1.97 (c)--i.e., after the period specified in 37 CFR 1.97(b) but before the mailing date of either a final action or a notice of allowance, whichever occurs first. A certification as specified in 37 CFR 1.97(e) is provided below.

The undersigned attorney certifies that each art document listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 was cited in a communication from the European Patent Office Patent Office in a counterpart PCT application not more than three months prior to the filing of this statement.

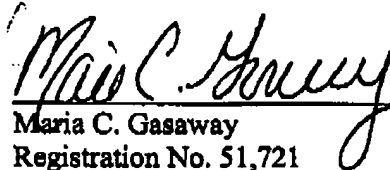
The cited art documents are in the English language.

It is respectfully requested that the Examiner confirm consideration of the cited documents by initialing the attached Form PTO-1449 and returning a copy of the initialed form to Applicant.

If any fees are due in connection with the filing of this statement, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(p) in the event that the period specified at 37 CFR 1.97(b) has elapsed, please charge all required fees to Deposit Account No. 50-0568.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 4-6-05

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
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APR 06 2005

PTO/SB/08A (15-01)

Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

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Substitute for form 1449A/PTO				<b>Complete if Known</b>	
<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b>  (use as many sheets as necessary)				Application Number	10/749,281
				Filing Date	December 31, 2003
				First Named Inventor	Huff
				Art Unit	2837
				Examiner Name	Unknown
				Attorney Docket Number	24997D
Sheet	1	of	1		

Confirmation No.: 9783

[illegible]

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner in Initials'	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document Country Code <sup>2</sup> -Number <sup>3</sup> -Kind Code <sup>4</sup> (If known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Paragraphs or Relevant Figures Appear	T8
		EP 0 822 322	04-02-1998	Matsuoka et al.		
		WO 02/38419	05-16-2002	Buff et al.		

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

1 Applicant's unique station designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 18 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

**Burden Hour Statement:** This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. **DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.**